

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend/replace claims 1, 20, 21, and 22.

Claim 1. (currently amended) A tool for removing a damaged spark plug from an engine cylinder, the damaged spark plug having an electrode end, an electrical connector end, an insulator, a damaged wrench-engaging member disposed about the insulator, and a body depending away from the damaged wrench-engaging member, the body having a periphery smaller than a periphery of an undamaged wrench-engaging member, the tool comprising:

a body portion extending along a first direction, the body portion having a first end, a second end, and an aperture extending in the first direction from the first end into the body portion toward the second end, the aperture defining an interior surface configured to engage a portion of the body of the damaged spark plug adjacent the damaged wrench-engaging member for rotating and removing the damaged spark plug, wherein a length of the aperture in the first direction is greater than or equal to a distance from the electrical connector end to the damaged wrench-engaging member.

Claims 2.-16. (canceled)

Claim 17. (previously presented) The tool of claim 1, wherein the interior surface has a threaded portion.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The tool of claim 17, wherein a first thread direction of the threaded portion is opposite a second thread direction of a threaded portion of the spark plug proximate the electrode end.

Claim 19. (previously presented) The tool of claim 18, wherein the threaded portion further has at least one groove.

Claim 20. (currently amended) The tool of claim 1, wherein the interior surface further has at least one spline portion configured to be driven onto the body of the damaged spark plug.

Claim 21. (previously presented) The tool of claim 1, wherein the second end is configured to receive a torque application device.

Claim 22. (currently amended) A method of removing a damaged spark plug from an engine utilizing a tool, the damaged spark plug having a damaged wrench-engaging member and a body disposed adjacent the wrench-engaging member, the tool having a body portion extending along a first direction, the body portion having a first end, a second end, and an aperture extending in the first direction from the first end into the body portion toward the second end, the aperture defining an interior surface configured to engage a portion of the body of the damaged spark plug adjacent the damaged wrench-engaging member, the method comprising:

disposing the tool proximate the spark plug such that the interior surface of the tool contacts the body of the damaged spark plug adjacent the damaged wrench-engaging member;

connecting a torque application device to the second end of the tool; and

rotating the torque application device in a first direction to rotate the tool and the damaged spark plug to remove the damaged spark plug from the engine.

Claim 23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

rotating the torque application device in a second direction opposite the first direction to further engage the interior surface of the tool into an exterior surface of the body of the damaged spark plug.